IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
ON APPEAL FROM THE EXAMINER TO THE BOARD
OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Application of:	Gilbert Levesque, et al.
Serial No.:	09/824,997
Filing Date:	April 2, 2001
Group Art Unit:	2157
Examiner:	El Hadji Malick Sall
Confirmation No.:	1332
Title:	FILTERING NETWORK MANAGEMENT MESSAGES

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Dear Sir:

SUPPLEMENT TO THE AMENDED APPEAL BRIEF

Appellants received a Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief dated August 10, 2007 ("*Notification*"). The *Notification* indicated that the Amended Appeal Brief filed by Appellants on April 13, 2007 failed to provide a complete Summary of Claimed Subject Matter in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(v).[1] In response, Appellants file this Supplement to the Appeal Brief including an Amended Summary of Claimed Subject Matter pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 1205.03. Appellants respectfully request consideration by the Board of the Amended Appeal Brief and this Supplement to the Amended Appeal Brief.

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[1] Specifically, the *Notification* states, "The citations at the end of the recitation of the independent claims is not a proper mapping. It is unclear what limitations of the claims are supported by the citations." *Notification*, p. 2 [sic].

AMENDED SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The claims of the present application are directed to methods for processing a network management message and associated components used to implement the methods. A network management message can include any communications with a variety of network elements (16) for creating, updating, configuring, obtaining status, monitoring operation, or performing other suitable functions. Specification, p. 6, ll. 22-25; *id.* at Figure 1. A server (12) provides an interface for clients (14) to issue network management commands (or other messages) to the network elements and receive responses, acknowledgements, and other types of network management messages from the network elements. *Id.* at p. 6, ll. 4-11 & 20-22; *id.* at Figure 1. Each client includes one or more consoles (22), which can display network management messages received through the server in real-time, buffered, a combination of real-time and buffered, or other suitable ways. *Id.* at p. 7, ll. 10-20; *id.* at Figure 1.

Each console receives network management messages, or particular fields of parsed network management messages, from the server based on filtering criteria established for that console. *Id.* at p. 7, ll. 29-32. The filtering criteria associated with a console can be unique or identical to other consoles and can include a user type and/or filtering options selected by a user of the console. *Id.* at p. 7, l. 29 - p.8, l. 4. A user of a client may establish a plurality of consoles that each display network management messages according to the console's filtering criteria. *Id.* at p. 8, ll. 2-8.

The server may include a communication server (26), which includes a log agent (36). *Id.* at Figure 1. When the server receives a network management message, the communication server parses the message into fields and sends the parsed message to the log agent. *Id.* at p. 13, ll. 7-19. The log agent stores the parsed message and communicates particular fields of the parsed message to some, all, or none of the consoles based on the filtering criteria associated with each console. *Id.* at p. 13, ll. 20-23; *id.* at p. 14, ll. 18-21

The following discussion identifies the claimed means plus function limitations and, for each such limitation, provides example structures and discussion in the specification for performing the recited functions:

1.   means for receiving a network management message

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, clients 14, network elements 16, console 22, application server 24, communication server 26, and log agent 36, as described in the specification at 6:4-11, 6:20-27, 7:10-8:13, 12:4-24, 13:3-14:21, 18:31-19:5, 19:12-20:19, 20:20-22, and 20:30-32.

2.   means for parsing the network management message into a plurality of fields

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, clients 14, network elements 16, console 22, application server 24, communication server 26, and log agent 36, as described in the specification at 6:4-11, 6:20-27, 11:19-12:24, 13:3-15:3, 19:27-20:22, 20:30-21:5, and 21:13-20.

3.   means for determining whether particular ones of the plurality of fields of the
        parsed network management message satisfy the filtering criteria associated
        with that client console

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, client 14, console 22, communication server 26, and log agent 36, as described in the specification at 6:4-11, 13:3-14:21, 16:19-17:6, 17:31-18:25, 20:4-19, and 21:13-32.

4.   means for communicating the particular fields of the parsed network
        management message determined to satisfy the filtering criteria to that client
        console for display by that client console

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, clients 14, GUI 18, COBRA interface 20, console 22, application server 24, communication server 26, and log agent 36, as described in the specification at 6:4-11, 6:30-7:9, 7:10-8:13, 8:14-32, 13:3-14:21, 15:4-16:8, 17:7-27, 18:25-31, 18:31-19:5, 20:4-19 and 21:13-32.

5.   means for receiving a request from a new client console, the request
        comprising an identifier for the new client console filtering options selected
        for the new client console

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, client 14, COBRA interface 20, console 22, communication server 26, and log agent 36, as described in the specification at 7:10-8:13, 8:14-32, 13:3-14:21, 15:4-16:18, and 17:28-19:5.

6.   means for determining a user type for the new client console based on the identifier

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, client 14, console 22, communication server 26, and log agent 36, as described in the specification at 7:10-8:13, 13:3-14:21, and 18:3-21.

7.   means for generating filtering criteria for the new client console based on the filtering options and the user type

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, client 14, console 22, communication server 26, and log agent 36, as described in the specification at 7:10-8:13, 13:3-14:21, 15:4-16:18, and 17:28-19:5.

8.   means for determining a message identifier from the fields

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, clients 14, network elements 16, communication server 26, and application server 24, as described in the specification at 11:8-12:24.

9.   means for determining a client identifier associated with the message identifier

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, clients 14, network elements 16, communication server 26, and application server 24, as described in the specification at 11:8-12:24, 21:13-20.

10.   means for identifying the client based on the client identifier

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, clients 14, network elements 16, communication server 26, and application server 24, as described in the specification at 11:8-12:24, 21:13-20.

11.   means for generating a second message comprising the fields and the client identifier

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, clients 14, network elements 16, communication server 26, and application server 24, as described in the specification at 11:8-12:24, 21:13-20.

12.   means for communicating the second message to the client

Example structures for performing the recited function include server 12, clients 14, network elements 16, communication server 26, and application server 24, as described in the specification at 11:8-12:24, 21:13-20.

With regard to the independent claims currently under Appeal, Appellants provide the following concise explanation of the subject matter recited in the claim elements. For brevity, Appellants have provided an example of where particular claimed aspects may be found in the description provided with respect to Figures 1 & 6. **These citations provide just an example** in order to assist the Board in considering the Appeal of this Application. A more complete list of relevant portions of the Specification and drawings is provided below each independent claim. However, **Appellants do not necessarily identify every portion of the Specification and drawings relevant to the recited claim elements**. For at least these reasons, this explanation should not be used to limit the scope of Appellants' claims.

A.   Claim 1 - Independent

> A method for processing a network management message comprising:
> receiving a network management message (*see, e.g.*, p. 12, ll. 4-9);
> parsing the network management message into a plurality of fields (*see, e.g.*, p. 12, ll. 7-16); and
> for each of a plurality of client consoles each having associated filtering criteria (*see, e.g.*, p. 7, l. 29 - p. 8, l. 6; p. 13, ll. 22-30):
> determining whether particular ones of the plurality of fields of the parsed network management message satisfy the filtering criteria associated with that client console (*see, e.g.*, p. 13, l. 20 - p. 14, l. 5); and
> communicating the particular fields of the parsed network management message determined to satisfy the filtering criteria to that client console for display by that client console (*see, e.g.*, p. 7, ll. 21-32; p. 13, l. 20 - p. 14, l. 5).

See also, e.g., Figure 1 (12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 36), Figure 2 (22), Figure 3 (60), Figure 4 (70), Figure 5 (118, 120, 122, 124, 126), Figure 6 (155, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 180, 182), and Figure 7 (200, 202, 204, 206, 210, 218, 220, 222, 226, 230), and in the specification at 6:4-11, 6:20-27, 6:30-7:9, 7:10-8:13, 8:14-32, 11:19-12:24, 13:3-15:3, 15:4-16:8, 16:19-17:6, 17:7-27, 17:31-18:25, 18:25-31, 18:31-19:5, 19:12-20:19, 20:20-22, 20:30-21:5, and 21:13-32.

B. Claim 9 - Independent

Logic for processing a network management message, the logic encoded in a storage medium and operable to:
receive a network management message (*see, e.g.,* p. 12, ll. 4-9);
parse the network management message into a plurality of fields (*see, e.g.,* p. 12, ll. 7-16); and
for each of a plurality of client consoles each having associated filtering criteria (*see, e.g.,* p. 7, l. 29 - p. 8, l. 6; p. 13, ll. 22-30):
determine whether particular ones of the plurality of fields of the parsed network management message satisfy the filtering criteria associated with that client console (*see, e.g.,* p. 13, l. 20 - p. 14, l. 5); and
communicate the particular fields of the parsed network management message determined to satisfy the filtering criteria to that client console for display by that client console (*see, e.g.,* p. 7, ll. 21-32; p. 13, l. 20 - p. 14, l. 5).

See also, e.g., Figure 1 (12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 36), Figure 2 (22), Figure 3 (60), Figure 4 (70), Figure 5 (118, 120, 122, 124, 126), Figure 6 (155, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 180, 182), and Figure 7 (200, 202, 204, 206, 210, 218, 220, 222, 226, 230), and in the specification at 6:4-11, 6:20-27, 6:30-7:9, 7:10-8:13, 8:14-32, 11:19-12:24, 13:3-15:3, 15:4-16:8, 16:19-17:6, 17:7-27, 17:31-18:25, 18:25-31, 18:31-19:5, 19:12-20:19, 20:20-22, 20:30-21:5, and 21:13-32.

C. Claim 14 - Independent

An apparatus for processing a network management message comprising:
means for receiving a network management message (*see, e.g.,* p. 12, ll. 4-9);
means for parsing the network management message into a plurality of fields (*see, e.g.,* p. 12, ll. 7-16); and
for each of a plurality of client consoles each having associated filtering criteria (*see, e.g.,* p. 7, l. 29 - p. 8, l. 6; p. 13, ll. 22-30):
means for determining whether particular ones of the plurality of fields of the parsed network management message satisfy the filtering criteria associated with that client console (*see, e.g.,* p. 13, l. 20 - p. 14, l. 5); and
means for communicating the particular fields of the parsed network management message determined to satisfy the filtering criteria to that client console for display by that client console (*see, e.g.,* p. 7, ll. 21-32; p. 13, l. 20 - p. 14, l. 5).

See also, e.g., Figure 1 (12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 36), Figure 2 (22), Figure 3 (60),
Figure 4 (70), Figure 5 (118, 120, 122, 124, 126), Figure 6 (155, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170,
172, 174, 180, 182), and Figure 7 (200, 202, 204, 206, 210, 218, 220, 222, 226, 230), and in
the specification at 6:4-11, 6:20-27, 6:30-7:9, 7:10-8:13, 8:14-32, 11:19-12:24, 13:3-15:3,
15:4-16:8, 16:19-17:6, 17:7-27, 17:31-18:25, 18:25-31, 18:31-19:5, 19:12-20:19, 20:20-22,
20:30-21:5, and 21:13-32.

D.   Claim 18 - Independent

        A communication system comprising:
        a client operable to generate a common object request broker
architecture (CORBA) command targeted at a network element (*see, e.g.*,
Figure 6, steps 150-52) and to communicate the CORBA command to a server
(*see, e.g.*, Figure 6, step 154);
        the server operable to receive the CORBA command (*see, e.g.*, Figure
6, step 155), to determine fields for a transaction language 1 (TL1) command
based on the CORBA command, to generate the TL1 command using the
fields (*see, e.g.*, Figure 6, step 164), to communicate the TL1 command to the
network element (*see, e.g.*, Figure 6, step 166), and, for each of a plurality of
client consoles each having associated filtering criteria (*see, e.g.*, p. 7, l. 29 -
p. 8, l. 6; p. 20, ll. 5-19), to determine whether particular ones of the plurality
of fields of the parsed network management message satisfy the filtering
criteria associated with that client console (*see, e.g.*, Figure 6, step 180; p. 20,
ll. 5-19) and to communicate the particular fields of the parsed network
management message determined to satisfy the filtering criteria to that client
console for display by that client console (*see, e.g.*, Figure 6, step 182; p. 7, ll.
21-32).

See also, e.g., Figure 1 (12, 14, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 36), Figure 2 (22), Figure 3 (60), Figure 4
(70), Figure 5 (124, 126), Figure 6 (150, 152, 154, 155, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168,
170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182), and Figure 7 (200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214,
216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230) and as described in the specification at 6:4-11, 6:30-
7:9, 7:10-8:13, 8:14-32, 9:1-10:12, 10:30-12:3, 12:9-24, 12:32-13:2, 13:3-14:21, 15:4-16:8,
16:19-17:6, 17:7-27, 17:31-18:25, 18:25-31, 18:31-19:5, 19:6-20:19, and 20:20-21:32.

E.   Claim 5 - Dependent

        The method of Claim 1, wherein the filtering criteria comprise a
message type and a user type, and the fields satisfy the filtering criteria if a
value for a selected one of the fields matches the message type and the user
type indicates an authorization to receive the message.

See citations for Claim 1; *also see, e.g.,* Figure 1 (22, 28, 38), Figure 3 (22, 62), Figure 5 (110, 112, 126), Figure 6 (180), and Figure 7 (218) and in the specification at 3:19-27, 7:29-8:13, 14:6-21, 16:19-28, and 18:8-19.

F.   Claim 11 - Dependent

   The logic of Claim 9, wherein the filtering criteria comprise a message type and a user type, and the fields satisfy the filtering criteria if a value for a selected one of the fields matches the message type and the user type indicates an authorization to receive the message.

See citations for Claim 9; *also see, e.g.,* Figure 1 (22, 28, 38), Figure 3 (22, 62), Figure 5 (110, 112, 126), Figure 6 (180), and Figure 7 (218) and in the specification at 3:19-27, 7:29-8:13, 14:6-21, 16:19-28, and 18:8-19.

G.   Claim 15 - Dependent

   The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein the filtering criteria comprise a message type and a user type, and the fields satisfy the filtering criteria if a value for a selected one of the fields matches the message type and the user type indicates an authorization to receive the message.

See citations for Claim 14; *also see, e.g.,* Figure 1 (22, 28, 38), Figure 3 (22, 62), Figure 5 (110, 112, 126), Figure 6 (180), and Figure 7 (218) and in the specification at 3:19-27, 7:29-8:13, 14:6-21, 16:19-28, and 18:8-19.

CONCLUSION

Through this Supplement to the Amended Appeal Brief and the Amended Appeal Brief (filed April 13, 2007), Appellants have demonstrated that the present invention, as claimed, is patentable over the single reference cited by the Examiner. Therefore, Appellants respectfully request the Board to reverse the final rejection and instruct the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance with respect to all pending claims.

Although Appellants believe no fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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